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1968-07-15, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

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Subject Terms

Women and the military, Women and war, United States -- Air Force, United States -- Army -- Air Forces, Photographs, Armed Forces -- Correspondence, Correspondence -- Vietnam War -- 1961-1975, Christmas

Summary

This collection contains 139 correspondence from Maj. Bette J. Barto, USAFE to her parents while serving as a nurse during the late 1950s and 1960s. Also included are three photographs, one special orders document, and one marriage license. In several cases, Bette refers to her parents as "Lizzie" and "Hugh Elmer," or simply "Elmer." Three letters from 1961 or 1962 are undated and placed in a separate folder.

Keywords

1968-07-15

Identifier

2017-219-w-r-_Barto_ColdWar_1968-07-15

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15 July 1968

5⁴⁵_{AM} Monday



Hi everybody,

This will be short since I said about all I knew on Sat. - at your expense, Mom. I had planned to wait til Sun. and call to give you all a chance to get organized.

Our friends, Wanda and Ennis Sanders, were here when you called; so, Mom, quit saying Ray is peeved at you. He knows you didn't decide on your own to go back to Mr. J.; he was just afraid things wouldn't go well. That's, after all, what we are all interested in, getting you away from all the unnecessary housekeeping and maintenance of that modest now that you don't need it.

Yesterday we drove 40 miles into the country to list a farm home and land for sale. The people are moving to Derby in Sept. and want to get rid of their old house. It wasn't much but the property was good and had a nice well on it so it will sell.

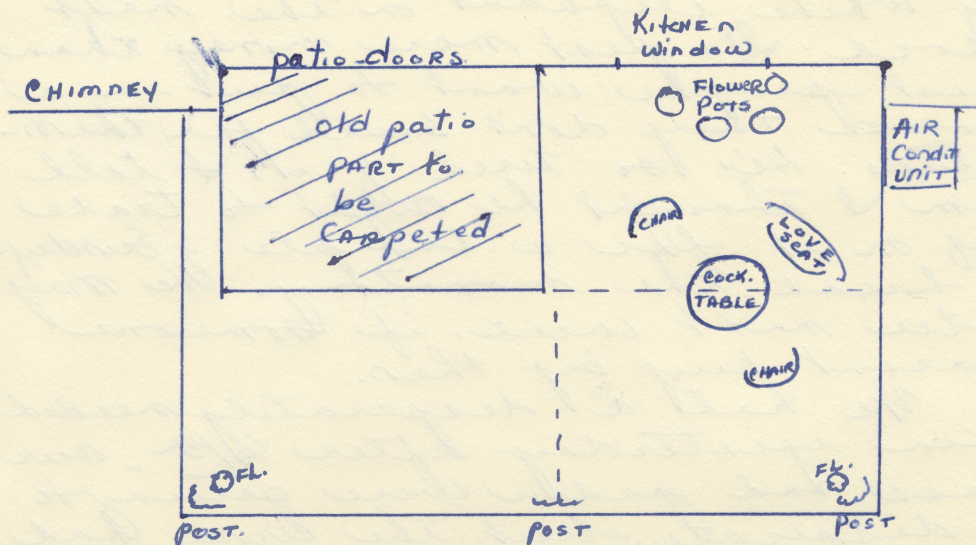
2 Ray is still unable to sell the big white elephant on the next block. It's just more money than most people want to put in a house they don't build for themselves. He's too tired of it. I talk him I thought he ought to trade off on it for a couple of Sunday's to break the monotony. He may, after next week, if someone doesn't buy by then.

We had a desperately needed rain yesterday after 6 PM - our grass and garden were getting to be desperate, but the wind had been too high to water. We must have gotten 2-3 inches in 30" - as usual, Kansas does everything too much.

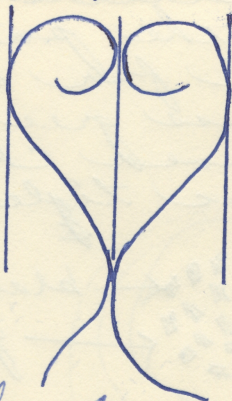
I have selected my outdoor carpet for the patio - won't get it installed for a few days yet. It's grass green with little black outlined chips - looks like mosaic tile - sort of.



It is pretty - and I think will go well with my antique green wrought iron furniture. I'm not sure that I diagrammed the patio enlargement to ^(over) you.



THE HOOD IS WHITE BAKED ON ENAMEL OVER ALUMINUM - THE SUPPORT POSTS ARE BLACK WROUGHT IRON - WITH A NEAT, GRACEFUL design - NOT TOO FANCY - SORT OF:



I'm on the lookout for some big antique green pots to sit by the posts - for geraniums but, so far, Ray has avoided the nursery routes - I'll catch him off guard, yet!

3- The poodles have been off their feed most of this week due to their teeth-cleaning episode. Their teeth look lovely but Ray says never again because they have been sick. They hacked and cleared their throats as if they were sore up til yesterday. Gent was ill all Tues nite & never turned off my light. We may loose Gent, Mom. Dr Allen said he has some small raised hyperplasia of the cheek mucous membrane on both sides - near his big molars - that look to him like sq. cell ca. If it is, it's terminal. He said it can't be radiated and it can't be excised and, if it were biopsied, it would spread like wildfire; so it would be best not to know for sure. I hope he is wrong. He said it could be from Gent's being nervous and biting his gums under jaw like some kids grind their teeth. I hope so, but all we can do is watch them and pray it's not.

Well, I must quit and get my working gear together - can't put it off any longer.

Here's the Label for Mrs. Steen and the menu from the pretty colonial club we ate in Sri Lanka - everyone was in billowing southern gowns and men in lacy shirts with fitted red jackets and white breeches - very pretty. Food was family style and good. More later New. BB